

Raritan's 2002 Women of Distinction and Girl Scouts of Distinction honorees and their significant contributions to Central New Jersey.

Through its efforts, the Girls Scouts of Delaware-Raritan serve over 12,000 young women across Central New Jersey. Tonight's honorees exhibit and exude the altruistic ideals that our Nation needs now, more than ever. These ideals, no doubt grew from their involvement in Girl Scouts and the grounding principals of the Girl Scout Promise and the Girl Scout Law which read as follows:

THE GIRL SCOUT PROMISE

On my honor, I will try:
To serve God and my country,
To help people at all times,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

THE GIRL SCOUT LAW

I will do my best to be
Honest and fair,
Friendly and helpful,
Considerate and caring,
Courageous and strong, and
Responsible for what I say and do,
And to
Respect myself and others,
Respect authority,
Use resources wisely,
Make the world a better place, and
Be a sister to every Girl Scout.

As we celebrate Women's History Month, we honor each of these recipients for their hard work and dedication and we celebrate the legacy they have created for women and women's history in Central New Jersey.

WOMEN OF DISTINCTION/GIRL SCOUTS OF DISTINCTION

World of Corporate Leadership, Ms. J. Andrea Alstrup, Johnson & Johnson and Ms. Erin McKinley, Senior Troop 1099, Princeton.

World of the Arts, Ms. Deborah Ford, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral and Ms. Megan Copenhaver, Senior Troop 1703, West Windsor/Plainsboro.

World of Education, Dr. R. Barbara Gitenstein, Ph.D., The College of New Jersey and Ms. Melissa Shulman, Senior Troop 523, Old Bridge.

World of Industry, Ms. Margaret Guillian, Inland Paperboard & Packaging, Inc. and Ms. Amirah Patterson, Senior Troop 308, Somerset.

World Citizen, Ms. Katherine M. Kish, Market Entry, Inc. and Ms. Maryanna Vicente, Independent Senior, Mojasphe.

World of Science, Dr. Elaine Leventhal, M.D., Ph.D., UMDNJ-RWJ Medical School and Ms. Victoria Rollins, Senior Troop 3038, Piscataway.

World of the Environment, Ms. Mary T. Shell, NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection and Ms. Kristen Schechter, Senior Troop 399, Somerset.

World of Women, Ms. Melanie Willoughby, NJ Retail Merchants Association and Ms. Sweta Patel, Senior Troop 308, East Brunswick.

Mr. Speaker, again, I rise to celebrate, honor and commend these outstanding New Jerseyans. I have personally observed the effective work of some of these honorees and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing their invaluable contributions to our community and to New Jersey.

ECONOMIC SECURITY AND RECOVERY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 7, 2002

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, it has been six months since the September 11th attacks. During that time, millions of working people in the United States have lost their jobs. Even before the attacks, our economy was slowing down and unemployment was on the rise. House leaders responded to the economic downturn with calls for deeper tax cuts for the wealthy and tax breaks for businesses. Congress even enacted a measure to bail out the airline industry. However, it continued to ignore the very individuals who need the assistance the most: the unemployed. With the consideration of H.R. 3090, the Job Creation and Worker Assistance Act, I am pleased that the House is finally voting on a bill that will truly help workers.

The 13-week extension of unemployment benefits provided in this legislation will bring much needed relief to the many displaced workers across the country whose benefits are near exhaustion. It will be particularly helpful in my district, where unemployment in some cities is well above the national rate of 5.5%. In South El Monte alone, for example, the unemployment rate is 10.3%. It is time that we help people in this city and others across the country as they struggle to make ends meet during these difficult times. It is the very least that we can do for them.

While I support this measure, I am disappointed that it does not include additional benefits for unemployed individuals. Compensation for unemployed part-time and low-wage workers and health insurance for displaced workers are among the benefits that should have been included in this economic stimulus bill. Also, my proposal to provide an immediate one-time payroll tax rebate up to \$300 to lower income working individuals should have been included. Working families need all the help they can get and unemployment benefits are sometimes insufficient to meet the day-to-day necessities. Inclusion of the above proposals would have strengthened the economic security of millions of unemployed workers until they found jobs. As the House continues to monitor the economy and its impact on working families, I urge it to consider these important proposals.

Although this legislation does not reach its full potential as a true worker assistance measure, it is a step in the right direction and will be enormously helpful to many hard working individuals and their families. In this regard, I support it and urge its passage.

IN HONOR OF EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY'S PLACEMENT ON THE AMERICA'S BEST COLLEGES LIST

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 2002

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Eastern Illinois University in

Charleston, Illinois, of my district. This Fall, Eastern Illinois University moved from the second tier to the first tier of the Midwestern Regional Universities in US News and World Report's 2002 annual guide to America's Best Colleges, placing it among the top public universities in the Midwest.

Eastern Illinois University is the only public university in the State of Illinois listed in the first tier of four tiers of 145 institutions in the "Best Universities—Masters (Regional Midwest)" ranking category—universities that offer a full range of undergraduate degrees and some master's degree programs, but few, if any doctoral programs. In addition, the magazine also rated Eastern fifth among all public Midwestern universities with master's programs, compared to seventh place of last year. The rankings are based on schools academic reputation, student selectivity, faculty resources, graduation and retention rates, financial resources, and alumni giving.

One of the most impressive statistics regarding Eastern Illinois University is that they have an average graduation rate of 67 percent. This rate reflects their strong commitment to the students that attend Eastern, and the effective leadership provided by interim president, Louis V. Hencken. Mr. Speaker, these graduates leave Eastern Illinois University with a quality education that makes them desired candidates for jobs within my district and the entire State of Illinois.

It is an honor to represent the city of Charleston, Illinois, and I offer my congratulations to the entire faculty and staff of Eastern Illinois University and commend them on this tremendous achievement.

HONORING EARLENE HILL

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 2002

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Earlene Hill as she retires after 29 years as a Registered Nurse with General Motors. During her career she has provided outstanding patient services to the employees of General Motors. Mrs. Hill will be honored at a celebration on March 14th in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

As a certified Occupational Health Nurse, Earlene has been on the front lines of health care in the workplace. As a member and past president of the Flint Association of Occupational Health Nurses she always abided by the high criteria imposed by that organization. The times I have met with her, I was impressed with Earlene's commitment to cultivating professional standards and her compassion for the workers in her care. As an Occupational Health Nurse she was charged with the awesome responsibility of assessing work environments for potential health or safety problems. Earlene has been an excellent advocate for safeguarding workers at Fisher Body Number 1, Flint Metal Fabrication, the Buick City Complex and the GM Regional Medical Complex.

Earlene's efforts on behalf of the workers under her protection resulted in her promotion to Manager of Health Service Administration at General Motors. This enabled the entire GM Health Service staff to draw on her expertise. Her retirement will leave a gap in the accumulated wisdom of the Health Service Administration. Her concern for others extends beyond